

**GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE NURSING ASSESSMENT/READINESS TESTS**

**Developed by the
California Community College Nursing Advisory Committee (3CNAC)
Revised April 2018**

1. Advertise the use of the assessment/readiness test according to college policy, but for at least six (6) months.
2. There are two (2) processes to select from:
 - a. Identify the pool of applicants that meets all properly established prerequisites and selection criteria for enrollment, except the assessment/readiness test.
Administer the assessment/readiness test to, at a minimum, the group of students who are qualified or elected to take the exam and any alternates you have identified. The cost of the assessment/readiness test to the pre-selected group shall be borne by the college (Nursing Support Grant). Nursing Support Grant funds may not be paid to an assessment center for the administration of the test.
 - b. Identify those students from the pre-selected group who have met the passing score established for the assessment/readiness test. These students are eligible for program enrollment. They have met the composite minimum score on the assessment/readiness test.
Administer or offer the assessment/readiness test to, at a minimum, a group of students equal to the numbers who enter your program. The cost of the assessment/readiness test to the pre-selected group shall be borne by the college (Nursing Support Grant).
Any student who has passed the assessment/readiness test is eligible to apply to the program.
3. Follow exam vendor specific instructions for administering the proctored exam, including the requirement for photo identification.
4. If the student presents with multiple test scores/results within one year, accept only the score from the first/earliest test unless the student presents evidence of acceptable remediation as described in 9. of this document.
5. The composite minimum score is based on the instrument used:

Instrument	Composite Minimum Score
Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI) ATI TEAS	62
National League for Nursing Preadmission Examination for Registered Nurse Programs (PAX-RN)	114
HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A ²) by Elsevier	70

6. Let students know this is the passing score for the California Community Colleges and is not necessarily the score they need to apply to the CSU system or any other educational system.
7. Refer prospective students who did not meet the composite minimum score to appropriate remediation.
8. Offer remediation to those students who achieved low scores in any section of the assessment/readiness test, even if they have a passing composite score overall.

9. The college shall allow those students who scored below the composite minimum at least one year, or longer, at college discretion, to remediate and demonstrate readiness. The period of remediation shall commence on the date the student receives his/her remediation plan for pre-entry coursework. Demonstration of readiness shall include one of the following:
 - a. Successful completion of a remediation plan and successful retaking of the assessment/readiness test with a passing composite score upon the next retake, or
 - b. Demonstration of passing grades in college remediation coursework in the appropriate disciplines to address areas identified as needing improvement by the assessment readiness test, or
 - c. Documentation of successful completion of a remediation plan that satisfies the intent of assuring readiness for success in the nursing program and is approved by the Nursing Program Director.
10. For programs which select students and then test: Any student not meeting the remediation requirements within the college's designated timeframe and/or upon the next retake will be required to restart the application process as a new student.

For programs which select including testing: Any student not meeting remediation requirements within the college's designated time frame and/or upon the next retake will be required to continue remediation and wait at least 365 days before retesting.
11. Students who took the TEAS 5.0 prior to August 31, 2016, and have been awaiting admission or application shall not be required to re-take the ATI TEAS test.
12. Qualified students that have previously taken a TEAS assessment test at an outside location, shall have the responsibility to contact the test vendor and instruct the vendor to send his/her test results directly to the Nursing Program Director.
13. Colleges should not accept unofficial copies of test results from students or other colleges.
14. Colleges will collect data specified in subdivisions (g) and (h) of Education Code Section 78261 (see below for specific language) and report it to the Chancellor's Office annually. This data should also be used at the local level to facilitate ongoing review of selection procedures to detect possible disproportionate impact as currently required by Title 5, section 55512.

Education Code Section 78261, Subdivisions (g) and (h):

(g) As a condition of receiving grant funds pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d), each recipient district shall report to the chancellor's office the following data for the academic year on or before a date determined by the chancellor's office:

- (1) The number of students enrolled in the nursing program.
- (2) The number of students taking diagnostic assessments.
- (3) The number of students failing to meet proficiency levels as determined by diagnostic assessment tools.
- (4) The number of students failing to meet proficiency levels that enroll in preentry preparation classes.
- (5) The number of students who successfully complete preentry preparation classes.
- (6) The average number of months between initial diagnostic assessment, demonstration of readiness, and enrollment in the nursing program for students failing to meet proficiency standards on the initial diagnostic assessment.
- (7) The average number of months between diagnostic assessment and program enrollment for students meeting proficiency standards on the initial diagnostic assessment.
- (8) The number of students who completed the associate degree nursing program and the number of students who pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

(h) (1) Data reported to the chancellor under this article shall be disaggregated by age, gender, ethnicity, and language spoken at home.